

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 086046

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

AMCONSUL NAHA

CINCPAC

COGARD

GOV GUAM

TRSY

UNCLAS STATE 086046

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TAGS:PFOR, XC, US

SUBJECT: APRIL 8 EA PRESS SUMMARY

1. CHINA

PAPERS HEADLINE TENG OUSTER, NAMING OF HUA AS PREMIER;
RUN PHOTOS BOTH MEN (SUN, WP, NYT; AP, NYDN). NYT
CARRIES TEXTS OF TWO CCP CENTRAL CMTE RESOLUTIONS
APPOINTING HUA, DISMISSING TENG; ALSO OFFICIAL NCNA
ACCOUNT OF MONDAY PEKING DEMONSTRATIONS.

DOS SAYS BASIC LINES PRC POLICY TOWARD US EXPECTED
CONTINUE. BUSH ALSO SAYS SINO-US RELATIONS WON'T BE
HURT BY PEKING SHAKE-UP. CONTENTS CHANGES SUGGEST
'CERTAIN TURMOIL AND CHURNING" EXISTS IN PRC, BUT THEY
SHOULD BE STABILIZING INFLUENCE (WSJ) FUNSETH QUOTES
HAK HAVING SAID IN MID-FEB THAT BASIC FOPOLICY BOTH US,
PRC, DEPEND PRIMARILY ON HOW BOTH PERCEIVE NATIONAL
INTERESTS; ADDS THAT PERSONALITIES, IN THIS SENSE, PLAY
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PAGE 02 STATE 086046

SECONDARY ROLE (NYDN'S CARTER).

REUTER (PEKING) REPORTS VAST CROWDS CLOGGED CAPITAL'S
STREETS THURSDAY AS CCP STAGED MASSIVE RALLY OF SUPPORT

FOR NEW PREMIER. TENS OF THOUSANDS POURED ONTO MAIN

AVENUE, BEATING DRUMS/CYMBALS, CARRYING DUPLICATED BANNERS PLEDGING BACKING FOR HUA, OPPOSITION TO TENG. CHEERLEADERS WITH LOUDSPEAKERS DIRECTED MASSIVE CONGREGATION OF SCHOOLCHILDREN/STUDENTS/WORKERS WHICH SWARMED THROUGH HEART OF CITY, CARRYING MAO PORTRAITS AND BANNERS DECLARING 'WARM SUPPORT' FOR CENTRAL CMTE'S TWO RESOLUTIONS.

CHINESE INFO SERVICE REPORTS ROC PRES YEN, VISITING TAIWAN TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL ON HAINYI ROAD IN TAIPEI, URGED DOMESTIC MACHINERY MANUFACTURERS UPGRADE QUALITY CONTROL TO ATTRACT OVERSEAS BUYERS. YEN SAID ROC IS STEPPING UP EFFORTS IN DEVELOPING HEAVY INDUSTRY, AND MACHINE INDUSTRY IS PLAYING VITAL ROLE IN DEVELOPMENT (JOC).

2. INDOCHINA

NOMINATIONS CLOSE FOR CANDIDATES FOR VN NATL ASSY, WITH 281 VYING FOR 243 SVN SEATS, AS YET UNANNOUNCED NUMBER FOR NVN SEATS IN 492-MAN ASSY (UPI, NYT).

SAIGON ARCHB OP SAYS SVN RC CHURCH DOES NOT AIM BE POLITICAL FORCE, BUT MUST REMAIN APOSTALIC AND NOT BE REDUCED TO SILENCE. REPEATS APPEAL THAT CLERGY/LAYMEN TAKE ACTIVE PART IN NATION'S LIFE (AFP, NYT).

SVN POLICE ARREST 110 'REACTIONARY ELEMENTS' IN CUU LONG PROV, ABOUT 95 MI SOUTH SAIGON (REUTER SAIGON).

3. THAILAND

DEMOCRATIC PARTY WILL APPROACH 3 OTHERS TO FORM COALITION, ACCORDING SPOKESMAN, WHO ADDS COALITION WILL PROBABLY BE FORMED WITHIN 15 DAYS. OTHER PARTES UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 086046

TO BE INVITED ARE MODERATE, MIL-BACKED CHAT THAI THAT WON 58 SEATS; SOCIAL JUSTICE WITH 28; NATIONALISTS WITH 8. DEMS WON 114-SEAT PLURALITY IN 279-SEAT NATL ASSY. KUKRIT'S SOCIAL ACTION PARTY WON 45 (UPI, NYT).

4. SINGAPORE

NARCOTICS CRACKDOWN NETS 4 STUDENTS AT AMERICAN HS; NARC CHIEF SAYS 20 PCT STUDENTS AT SCHOOL INVOLVED WITH DRUGS (REUTER SINGAPORE).

5. AUSTRALIA

CRUDE OIL OUTPUT UP 6 PCT DURING 1975 (JOC). STRIKE BY AUSSIE STOREMEN/PACKERS HOLDS UP 1/8 WORLD'S TRADED WOOL (WP).

6. JAPAN

COMMAT MOTORU-KE MAKERS ENDED TWO-DAY MEET, MODENA, ITALY, WEDNESDAY; AGREED NEED REORGANIZE PLAN S, IMPROVE 'QUALITY,' BUT STOPPED SHORT ASKING OWN GOVTS FOR PROTECTION AGAINST JAPANESE IMPORTS (WP).

EX-IM BANK SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT CONGRESS SHOWS SHARP INCREASE "DIRECT" EXPORT CREDITS LAST YEAR, BY JAPAN, FRANCE, ITALY, UK, TO COMBINED TOTAL 69.3 BILLION DOLS. US TOTAL UP 17 PCT, TO 9.9 BILLION DOLS. EXPANSION FOREIGN CREDITS LAID NEED GOVTS MEET HIGHER OIL IMPORT COSTS (LAWRENCE, JOC).

7. PHILIPPINES

MOST PAPERS REPORTED PAL JET HIGHJACKED BY THREE MOSLEM REBELS DURING MANILA-CAGAYAN DE ORO FLIGHT. AFTER DAY-LONG NEGOTIATIONS PLANE LEFT MANILA, LANDED REFUEL KOTA KINABALU, MALAYSIA, THURSDAY NIGHT. WHEN PILOT ASKED CLEARANCE LAND, VOICE SAID ON RADIO 'THIS IS THE MORO NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT. WE ARE BOUND FOR THE MIDDLE EAST...IF YOU DO NOT ALLOW US TO LAND HERE, PLEASE SHOOT THE PLANE AND BLOW IT UP.' AIRPORT UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 086046

CLOSED TRAFFIC, UNDER HEAVY POLICE GUARD. NOT KNOWN HOW LONG BAC-111 WOULD STAY ON GROUND, OR WHERE GO NEXT (REUTER KOTA KINABALU).

HIJACKERS EARLIER RELEASED ALL 69 PASSENGERS MANILA, AFTER GETTING ASSURANCES DETAINEES WHOSE RELEASE THEY DEMANDED WOULD NOT BE HARMED. THREE ADDITIONAL PILOTS, AND SUBSTITUTE HOSTAGE, PAL VP RAPHAEL IGOA, JOINED 6-MAN CREW ON BOARD (WP). PAL PRES BENIGNO TODA CONFIRMED 300,000 DOL RANSOM DEMAND NOT MET, BUT 20 OVERCOATS PLACED ON BOARD (AP, SUN). PRES MARCOS EARLIER REFUSED PAY RANSOM (REUTER, MANILA).

LONE AMCIT ON BOARD, JACK SCHROEDER (PASADENDA, CAL) SAID PASSENGERS DID NOT SEE HIJACKERS UNTIL PLANE LANDED MANILA; HAD TWO PISTOLS (REUTER MANILA).

HIJACKERS HAD THREATENED START KILLING HOSTAGES AT MANILA, UNLESS GOP FREED SIX DETAINEES, INCLUDING

PUBLISHER EUGENIO LOPEZ, JR (UPI, WSTAR 4/7; WSJ). GOP REFUSED. PHIL AMB TO SAUDI ARABIA, LUNINGDING

PANGANDAMAN, ONE PRISONER, RAFAEL YABUT, BOARDED PLANE,
CONVINCED HIJACKERS DETAINEES REFUSED JOIN THEM
(AP, SUN; UPI, NYDN).

NEWSMEN BARRED FROM MANILA AIRPORT DURING INCIDENT,
BUT NORMAL FLIGHT OPERATIONS CONTINUED (UPI, WSTAR).

OFFICIALS IDENTIFIED TWO HIJACKERS AS BENJIE SUBAIR,
MAN NAMED MACHMOD. BOTH CLAIMED BE MEMBERS MORO NATL
LIBERATION FRONT (AP, SUN).

COMMENT AND ANALYSIS

8. INDOCHINA

WP'S SIMONS NOTES GRUNK RESIGNATION THAT CLEARS WAY
FOR ESTABLISHMENT CAMBODIA COMMUNIST-STYLE GOVT. SAYS
19-MAN ADMINISTRATION WAS FIGUREHEAD, REAL POWER HELD
BY KR LEADERS. QUOTES OBSERVERS THAT KR NOW SUFFICIENTLY
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PAGE 05 STATE 086046

CONFIDENT OF GRASP ON COUNTRY TO ELIMINATE VESTIGES
ROYAL PATERNALISM; SHAPE NEW GOVT OBSCURE. REPORTS
SPECULATION ON WHETHER SIHANOUK, WIFE WILL GO INTO EXILE;
BUT OBSERVER THINKS UNLIKELY KR WOULD LIKE PRINCE
LEAVE PP, START TALKING. BELIEVES SIHANOUK HAS FEW
ILLUSIONS ABOUT HIS FUTURE IN KR-RULED CAMBODIA.

ANDERSON/WHITTEN (WP) REPORT THEN DOS UNDER-SECY
RICHARDSON USED DANIEL ELLSBERG IN 1970 TO PASS CLASSIFIED
INFO TO PRESS CONCERNING HOW RICHARDSON TRYING FREE
PROMINENT SVN ASSYMAN, TRAN NGOC CHAU. ADD INVESTIGATOR
IN CASE RECOMMENDED RICHARDSON, AIDE, BE PROSECUTED
WITH ELLSBERG. NOTE COMMERCE SECY DENIES HAD ANY
PART IN LEAK TO PRESS. (ABRIDGED IN GLOBE).

9. THAILAND

LAT'S MCARTHUR (4/6) SEES SENI AS BENEFICIARY STRONG
RIGHT-WING SWING THAT NO THAI POLITICAL EXPERT HAD
PREDICTED; SAYS HE APPEARS CERTAIN BE PM. REVIEWS
POSSIBLE EFFECT US PULLOUT THAT AMEMBASSY NOW CONSIDERS
DEAD ISSUE.

10. AUSTRALIA

WILLIS (CSM), AFTER INTERVIEW PM, SAYS RELIABILITY US
AS ALLY UNDER SERIOUS QUESTION IN AUSTRALIA. STATES

AUSSIES HAVE DEEP MISGIVINGS OVER CONGRESSIONAL DEMS'
OPPOSITION AIDING NONCOMMUNIST ORCES IN ANGOLA;
CONCERNED, WITH NZ, OVER GROWING USSR NAVAL STRENGTH

INDIAN OCEAN. NOTES FRASER WORRIED OVER WH-CONGRESS SPLIT, BUT CAN SEE NO ALTERNATIVE FOR AUSTRALIA BUT CONTINUE RELY US 7TH FLEET. QUOTES PM'S SUPPORT FOR USN BASE DIEGO GARCIA TO AVOID SITUATION WHERE ANY POWER COULD INTERDICT OIL SUPPLIES TO JAPAN, AUSTRALIA. WILLIS CONCLUDES OVERALL US-AUSSIE TIES GOOD, BUT CANBERRA'S MISGIVINGS ON ABOVE POINTS REMAIN.

11. PHILIPPINES/ROK

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 06 STATE 086046

WSTAR (4/7) HAS NO IDEA WHAT PROMPTED AMEMBASSY MANILA DENY MACAPAGAL ASYLUM. OFFICIAL EXPLANATION -- DID NOT APPEAR HIS LIFE IN DANGER -- 'MAKES LITTLE SENSE.' SINCE PUBLISHED BOOK BLASTING MARCOS, MACAPAGAL SEEMS 'PRIME CANDIDATE' FOR EARLY ARREST, LONG PERIOD UNPLEASANT DETENTION. MAY NOT HAVE BEEN BEST PRES PHILS EVER HAD, BUT BY STANDARDS OF SUCCESSOR WAS 'MODEL OF DEMOCRATIC PURITY.' VACATED PRES PALACE 'WITH GOOD GRACE' WHEN LOST TO MARCOS. NOT CLEAR WHETHER MACAPAGAL'S OUTBURST, AFTER MONTHS' DISCREET SILENCE, PORTENDS GROWING RESISTANCE TO ARBITRARY RULE, BUT DECLARES HIGH TIME USG "STOP CATERING TO TINHORN DICTATORSHIPS" IN PHILIPPINES/ROK, WHICH FAR GREATER DANGER TO THEIR PEOPLE THAN COMMUNIST MENACE THEY INVOKE TO JUSTIFY OWN EXISTENCE. SUGGESTS OPPOSITION TO THEM SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED BY ALL LEGITIMATE MEANS.

12. CHINA

SUN SAYS OUTCOME PEKING LEADERSHIP CHANGES APPEARS YET ANOTHER COMPROMISE, KEEPING HIERARCHY PATCHED TOGETHER PENDING INEVITABLE TRANSITION TO POST-MAO ERA. NOTES TENG PUBLICLY SACRIFICED -- LIKE LIU/LIN, VICTIM TO 'IMPOSSIBLE JOB' OF HEIR-APPARENT TO LIVING LEGEND; BUT AT SAME TIME, LI HSIEN-NIEN IS SHOWN OFF IN GOOD POLITICAL HEALTH. SEES GESTURE TO PRAGMATISM IMPLICIT IN TIMING OF LI'S E?ERGENCE TO WELCOME LAOTIAN DELEGATION. SAYS NEED FOR SUCH GESTURE SUGGESTS MODERATES NOT YET SPENT -- AS DOES FACT MORE THAN 13 HOURS PASSED FROM TIME TIENANMEN DISORDER STARTED, IN FULL VIEW FOREIGNERS, TO TIME AUTHORITIES SENT FORCES TO CLEAR SQUARE. CONCLUDES THAT LEADERSHIP OVER WHICH HUA PRESIDES SEEMS STILL TRANSITIONAL COMPROMISE, IN WHICH HE IS USEFUL NOT ONLY FOR OWN HIGHLY-REGARDED ADMINISTRATIVE SKILLS, BUT ALSO FOR LACK TOP-LEVEL

ENEMIES AMONG MAJOR FACTIONS.

CSM THINKS LIKELY THAT PRC'S STRIPPING TENG OF POWER MAY BE ONLY FORMAL ADMISSION OF PRIVATE ACTION THAT

TOOK PLACE WEEKS/MONTHS AGO. SEES HUA AS COMPROMISE
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 07 STATE 086046

CHOICE, ACCEPTABLE TO RADICALS, BUT OBVIOUSLY NOT TO
MODERATES, WHO WANTED TENG. SAYS QUESTION NOW IS
WHETHER MODERATE-PRAGMATISTS WILL ACCEPT THEIR REBUKE
WITHOUT FURTHER VIOLENCE, AND FOR HOW LONG.

GLOBE CONCLUDES IT IS EASY OVERINTERPRET SOMETHING
LIKE PRC LEADERSHIP CHANGE. POSSIBLE MONDAY'S RIOTING
ANTICIPATES WHAT WILL HAPPEN WHEN MAO DIES, BUT AT
THIS POINT NO REASON BELIEVE PRC STABILITY SERIOUSLY
THREATENED.

NYT SUGGESTS THAT IF PRO-TENG FACTION COULD MOUNT
MONDAY'S MAJOR DEMONSTRATION AFTER MANY WEEKS CEASELESS,
VEILED, ANTI-TENG DENUNCIATION IN ALL CHINESE MEDIA,
THEN MAY BE SUSPECTED THIS FACTION TOO STRONG TO TAKE
DEFEAT SUPINELY--DECISION TO DEPOSE TENG, ELEVATE
HUA, COULD POSSIBLY SIGNAL BEGINNING ANOTHER LONG
INTERNAL TUG-OF-WAR. ALSO POSSIBLE THAT HUA SUPPORTERS
DELIBERATELY ARRANGED DEMONSTRATION TO INDUCE MAO
RESOLVE ISSUE AS THEY WANTED IT SETTLED. BY MAKING
HUA PREMIER, MAO VIRTUALLY INVITES HIM DISPOSE OF TENG
BEFORE LATTER CAN GATHER FORCES; EVEN SO, HINT OF
MAO'S RELUCTANCE GIVE HUA ALL HE WANTED IS SUGGESTED
BY DECISION LET TENG STAY CCP MEMBER, NOT CAST HIM
UTTERLY INTO IGNOMINIOUS DISGRACE. MEANWHILE, MONDAY
DISTURBANCES RAISE NEW QUESTIONS ABOUT PRC STABILITY/
FUTURE, GIVING COMFORT TO COUNTRY'S ENEMIES, POSING NEW
DOUBTS/WORRIES FOR PEKING FRIENDS IN US, THROUGHOUT
WORLD.

WSJ'S KEATLEY CONCLUDES THERE REMAINS ABOUT AS MUCH
CONFUSION AS EVER ABOUT WHO'S REALLY IN CHARGE IN
PRC AND WHAT CHANGES WILL MEAN FOR COUNTRY'S FOREIGN/
DOMESTIC POLICIES -- THOUGH LITTLE EVIDENCE HUA-FOR-TENG
SWAP WILL BRING RADICAL CHANGES. SAYS SO FAR, PRC
RELATIONSHIP TO US NOT INVOLVED, THOUGH COULD BE LATER.
HOW 4 VACANT POLITBURO VACANCIES FILLED WILL TELL MUCH
ABOUT NATURE CHINESE LEADERSHIP OVER NEXT FEW YEARS.

WP'S GREENWAY (HK) SUGGESTS THAT EVEN MORE IMPORTANT
THAN HUA'S BEING NAMED PREMIER IS HIS ELEVATION TO
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PAGE 08 STATE 086046

CCP FIRST VICE CHAIRMAN, REPLACING WANG HUNG-WEN. SAYS
MOVE BEING INTERPRETED IN HK AS CO;PROMISE -- RADICALS

SUCCESSFUL IN BLOCKING TENG, BUT HAVE NOT SUCCEEDED

IN PROMOTING ONE OF THEIR OWN. MAINTAINS WEDNESDAY CHANGES DO NOT RESOLVE LEADERSHIP CRISIS, SINCE STILL UNKNOWN WHO REPLACES TENG AS PLA CHIEF OF STAFF. SINCE HUA IN NEITHER RADICAL OR MODERATE CAMP, PRESENT POLITICAL INSTABILITY MAY BREAK OUT AGAIN AS FACTIONS JOCKEY FOR POSITION.

NYT'S LELYVELD SAYS ANALYSTS US/HK AGREE HUA ELEVATION REPRESENTS ATTEMPTED COMPROMISE, RATHER THAN CLEAR-CUT RADICAL VICTORY. SEES FURTHER EVIDENCE OF COMPROMISE IN REAPPEARANCE LI HSIEN-NIEN, WHICH MAY WELL HAVE BEEN INTENDED REASSURE OFFICIALS THROUGHOUT PRC WHO MIGHT HAVE FELT THREATENED BY TENG'S FALL. THAT LI RETAINS HIS POSITIONS INDICATES INTENTION MAINTAIN CONTINUITY IN POLICIES, LIMIT PURGING TO TENG.

GLOBE'S PILATI FINDS LEADING SCHOLARS DIFFER SHARPLY ON RECENT PRC EVENTS. TUFT'S DONALD KLEIN VIEWS DEVELOPMENTS AS 'ESSENTIALLY DOMESTIC ISSUE' WITH NO SPILLOVER INTO FOPOLICY FOR PRC'S TWO CRUCIAL RELATIONSHIPS WITH US, SOV. HARVARD'S ROSS TERRILL PERCEIVES SIGNS, INCLUDING STREET DEMONSTRATIONS AND TENG OUSTER, THAT SOME IN LEADERSHIP CIRCLES DO NOT SHARE MAO'S 'DEGREE OF HOSTILITY' TOWARD SOV; ALSO SAYS WAS 'TRAGEDY' US DID NOT GO FURTHER ALONG ROAD TOWARD FULL RELATIONS DURING MAO-CHOU PERIOD, WHEN 'DOOR WAS KEPT OPEN TO AMERICA.'

NYT'S CHING, IN HK, NOTES THERE APPEARED SOME SIGNS HUA NOT KEEN TO FOLLOW POLICY OF PARTY RADICALS. FOR EXAMPLE, HUNAN CCP ORGANIZATION HAS ADOPTED DISTINCTLY LUKEWARM ATTITUDE TOWARD CAMPAIGN AGAINST 'CAPITALIST ROADERS,' AND HAS NOT HELD SPECIAL MEETINGS TO CRITICIZE TENG, OTHER RIGHTISTS; ALSO, JANUARY '75 CHOICE OF HUA AS DEPUTY PM/PUBLIC SECURITY MINISTER WAS MADE BY NPC DOMINATED BY PARTY MODERATES.

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 09 STATE 086046

NYT'S CARTER DECLARES RADICALS WON SKIRMISH WITH HUA REPLACING TENG, BUT WAS COSTLY VICTORY, POINTING TOWARD THEIR DEFEAT IN BIGGER STRUGGLE WITH MODERATES OVER WHO WILL RUN COUNTRY AFTER MAO'S DEATH. SAYS EVIDENT FROM FACT TENG KEPT CCP MEMBERSHIP THAT HIS DISGRACE 'NOT ALL THAT GREAT,' AND NOTES SOME WASHINGTON SUSPICION THAT RADICALS INCITED MONDAY'S RIOTING TO DISCREDIT TENG.

SUN'S WU, IN HK, NOTES RADIO PEKING REPEATED BROADCAST ALL NIGHT OF TWO CENTRAL CMTE RESOLUTIONS, DISMISSING

TENG, NAMING HUA PREMIER. TEXTS ALSO RELEASED BY

NCNA. SAYS MONDAY RIOTS NOW CALLED 'COUNTER-
REVOLUTIONARY INCIDENT,' INCITED BY TENG FOLLOWERS AGAINST
MAO HIMSELF, WHICH PRC RADIO LIKENED TO 1956 HUNGARIAN
REVOLT. OBSERVES TENG DISMISSAL ENDED ONE PHASE OF
CURRENT POWER STRUGGLE, WITH UPHOLDERS OF GPCR
EMERGING AS WINNERS. IF LEADERSHIP HAD BEEN DIVIDED,
AS REPORTEDLY SOUGHT BY TENG, BELIEVES MONDAY
DISTURBANCES HELPED PATCH UP RIFT, ENABLE LEADERSHIP
ACHIEVE CONSENSUS, AT LEAST FOR TIME BEING.

AFP'S BIANNIC, IN PEKING, CITES OBSERVERS WHO VIEW
HUA APPOINTMENT AS COMPROMISE BETWEEN RADICALS/
CONSERVATIVES AMONG LEADERSHIP, REPLACING MAN OF
CENTER, CHOU, WITH CENTRIST, HUA. BUT CAUTIONS THAT
HUA, EVEN THOUGH BELIEVED HAVE PERSONAL LINKS WITH
MAO, MUST NOT NECESSARILY BE REGARDED AS SUCCESSOR-
DESIGNATE, ANY MORE THAN CHOU BEFORE HIM (GLOBE).

TRUDEAU ("DOONESBURY") PORTRAYS AMB DUKE ON PHONE TO
DOS DISCUSSING WHAT MIGHT BE DONE ABOUT PRESENCE
CUBANS ON SOVET SIDE PRC BORDER. DUKE MENTIONS
OPTIONS: INVADE CUBA, IMPOSE BLOCKADE, CALL IN
AIRSTRIKES ON CHINESE BORDER; THEN EXCUSES INTERPRETER
WHEN REMINDED SECURITY (SUN, WP, NYDN).

HERBLOCK (WP) SHOWS TV NEWS ANALYSTS PORING
OVER US PRIMARY RESULTS, DECIDING START WITH 'SIMPLE
THINGS; -- PRC LEADERSHIP: 'HUA KUO-FENG SEEMS TO
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PAGE 10 STATE 086046

BE IN, TENG HSIAO-PING IS OUT...'

NEW ZEALAND NEWS

PM MULDOON AT CENTER POLITICAL STORM FOR SAYING VN
WAR WAS CATASTROPHE CAUSED BY US UNWILLINGNESS USE
NUCLEAR WEAPONS (REUTER WASHINGTON). KISSINGER

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